

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** November 16, 2007  
10:00A.M.

**LOCATION:** Indiana Department of Transportation Traffic  
Management/ISP Post 52

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Gary Miller (Private Ambulance)  
Charles Valentine (Municipal Fire)  
William Rutherford, MD (Emergency Physicians)  
Myron Mackey (EMTs)  
Terri Hamilton (Volunteer EMS)  
G. Lee Turpen II (Paramedics)  
Sue Dunham (Emergency Nurses)  
Ed Gordon (Volunteer Fire)  
Jane Craigin (Hospital EMS)  
Michael Olinger, MD (Trauma Physicians)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michael Garvey, Division Director, Fire and  
Building Safety

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Division Director Garvey. He reminded those in attendance that Rodney Coats' tenure on the commission has expired and the position representing the general public is open. Mr. Garvey introduced Charles Valentine as the representative for Municipal Fire Departments. Mr. Valentine is a paramedic and Deputy Chief of Decatur Township Fire Department.

### **ELECTION of OFFICERS**

**Mr. Garvey called for an election of chairman and vice-chairman.**

**Lee Turpen nominated Gary Miller as chairman. The motion was seconded by Ed Gordon. The motion passed.**

**Mr. Gordon nominated Mr. Turpen as vice-chairman. The motion was seconded by Michael Olinger, MD. The motion passed.**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Terri Hamilton requested a correction in the minutes to show that, in the Education Committee Report, the First Responder, EMT-Basic, and EMT Basic-Advanced skill sheets have been revised.

**Myron Mackey offered a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as corrected. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gordon. The motion passed and the minutes were approved as corrected.**

**STAFF REPORTS:**EMS PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION

First Responders currently certified	6,285
EMTs to be certified this date	194
EMTs currently certified	16,005
EMTs recertified this date	889
EMT Basic Advanced to be certified this date	12
EMT Basic Advanced currently certified	1,253
EMT Basic Advanced recertified this date	92
EMT Paramedics to be certified this date	61
EMT Paramedics currently certified	2,915
EMT Paramedics recertified this date	170
EMT Intermediates to be certified this date	1
EMT Intermediates currently certified	151
EMT Intermediates recertified this date	13
Temporary certificates issued:	
EMT-B	17
EMT Paramedic	01

Drivers Certifications currently certified: 1174

Mr. Garvey ask the commission to submit suggestions for what information it would like to see in future staff reports.

EMS PROVIDER CERTIFICATION REPORT

ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Basic-Advanced, Paramedic Organization	7
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced, EMT-I, Paramedic Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Paramedic Organization	2

ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization	3
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	21
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	1
ALS Non-Transport, Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization	14
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	4
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate, Paramedic Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	2
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Rescue Squad Organization	3
ALS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	2
ALS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT Intermediate Organization	1
ALS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT Intermediate Organization, Rescue Squad	1
ALS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	2
ALS Non-Transport, Paramedic Organization	5
Ambulance Service Provider	87
Ambulance Service, BLS Non-Transport	26
Ambulance Service, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	6
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT Intermediate Organization	1
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization	1
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	3
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Rescue Squad Organization	1
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Intermediate Organization	1
Ambulance Service Provider, BLS Non-Transport, Paramedic Organization	7
Ambulance Service, BLS Non-Transport, Rescue Squad	7

Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization	17
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate Organization	4
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced, EMT-Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization	10
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, EMT-Intermediate organization, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	1
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Basic-Advanced Organization, Paramedic Organization	48
Ambulance Service Provider, EMT Advanced-Basic Organization Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	1
Ambulance Service Provider, Intermediate Organization	1
Ambulance Service Provider, Intermediate Organization, Paramedic Organization	3
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization	36
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization, Rescue Squad	1
Ambulance Service Provider, Paramedic Organization, Rotorcraft Air Ambulance	5
BLS Non-Transport Organization	319
BLS Non-Transport, Rescue Squad	85
Rescue Squad Organization	5
Rotorcraft Air Ambulance	15

#### EMS OPERATIONS REPORT

Vehicle Inspections	103
Provider/Hospital//Training Institution Applications	25
EMS Provider visits	136
EMS Provider Audits	01
Hospital Visits	20
EMT Written tests proctored	6

Chairman Miller suggested the Provider Report reflect the highest level of certification for the providers.

**Dr. Olinger offered a motion to accept the reports. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mackey. The motion passed.**

#### EMS DATA REGISTRY

Mark Nelson presented the EMS Data Registry Report. A total of 1,969,363 runs have been entered. Mr. Nelson stated that 95% of EMS services are using software that is NEMSIS compliant. Mr. Mackey stated that he appreciated seeing a listing of the providers who are not reporting.

### DISASTER PORTABLE MORTUARY UNIT PROJECT

EMS District Manager Troy Morgan reported that the EMS Staff and others from the agency have exercised the disaster portable morgue for the second time. He stated that the morgue had been placed on standby during the response to the tornado in Elkhart County. Mr. Morgan reminded the audience that the DMORT consisted of people working in the morgue and that the DPMU consisted of the equipment and the staff to set-up the morgue and to provide logistical support to the DMORT.

### DISTRICT MEDICAL RESPONSE TEAM PROJECT

Mr. Morgan reported that procurement of equipment was underway and Washington County should receive its trailer and equipment shortly. The teams are currently working on operating procedures.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Steve Garrison reported that the committee is still working on the 12-lead curricula. Dr. Olinger requested that 12-lead application be included in the EMT-Basic Curriculum. William Rutherford, MD, concurred.

Chairman Miller expressed concern about the fact that Indiana EMT-P candidates ranked 38<sup>th</sup> in the nation in National Registry test scores. Jane Craigin expressed concerns that Indiana needs to be a leader in benchmarking and looking for best practices in EMS performance. She expressed dismay about the inability to access information from other states and suggested that it could be addressed at national EMS Directors' meetings. Doctors Olinger and Rutherford agreed.

Mr. Garrison stated that Lindi Holt is chairing a sub-committee studying EMS education.

### EMS DATA COLLECTION and REGISTRY TASKFORCE

Mr. Nelson reported that the taskforce has agreed on 148 of the 425 elements in the NEMSIS Code Set. He said that the Indiana Attorney General's Office has suggested that the commission adopt the entire code set then determine which ones it wants reported. Agency Counsel Myra Snyder stated that moving an item from the discretionary list to the mandatory list would still require a rule change but it would help to ease software issues. She also advised the commission to study and report to her the fiscal impact of any rule change. She suggested that a memo to her from qualified professionals on the commission explaining why the fiscal impact would be low is appropriate.

Mr. Nelson thanked Tom Arkins, Wishard Ambulance Service, for his assistance to the taskforce.

**Dr. Olinger offered a motion to start the rule process to adopt the NEMSIS Code Set. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mackey. The motion passed.**

### **INDIANA EMS NEEDS ASSESSMENT:**

#### WORKFORCE and TRAINING ISSUES SURVEY REPORT

Charles Avery, Ph. D., Purdue University, presented the results of workforce and training survey contracted by the State Office of Rural Health. In a random survey of providers and EMS personnel it was found that there are issues concerning high vacancy, work loads of paid personnel, differences in training for rural and urban areas, and foreign language training. It was also found that only 50% of provider organizations are conducting audits as required by the rules. Self-assessments revealed differences in perceived skill abilities. Provider organizations had 20% of staffing needs unfulfilled and 90% were experiencing hiring difficulties. It was also found that the heavy work load of paid staff could result in quality of care issues.

The training needs as reported by organizations and individuals differed significantly. Rural needs included cardiac care to include ALS, airway, de-fibrillation, and administration of epinephrine. The biggest barrier to training is time.

Dr. Rutherford questioned why the vacancy rate is so high when we are so many individuals. He wondered if there is a need to set higher entrance requirements. Mr. Mackey suggested that the commission is making it too hard for personnel to stay certified. Ms. Craigin offered that holding personnel accountable for their training requirements is not “making things too hard.” She did agree that there is a disparity between paid and volunteer organizations but said that standards should not be lowered. Mr. Turpen agreed that disparity of pay is a key and offered that reimbursement is an issue.

Dr. Avery stated that age is the biggest reason for learning and there was a consistency on the responses of a need for foreign language training and also of the disparity in training for urban and rural areas.

### **LEGAL MATTERS**

#### Pending Administrative Cases

A list was presented to the commission.

#### Emergency Order of Suspension

It was reported that the Agency has issued the following Emergency Orders of Suspension:

Order No. 16-2007, Lee Goldstein, EMT #59100

Order No. 17-2007, Gretchen Winger, Paramedic #0535

### Probationary Certification Issued

It was reported that the Agency has issued probationary certifications to the following:

Michael Sean Frasher, Paramedic #44267

Michael W. Rosenberger, EMT #63552

Chairman Miller discussed the probationary certification process and asked who oversees compliance with probation requirements and cross-checks information. Operations Director Sherrie Crain responded that INDOT conducts the drug testing.

Ms. Craigin reminded the commission that it needs to look at creating a good impaired EMS provider policy.

### **EMS COMMISSION RULE WAIVERS:**

#### Provider Waiver Requests

Mr. Nelson presented the following waivers.

*Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County on behalf of:*

*Carmel Fire Department*

*Cicero V Fire Department*

*Fishers Fire Department*

*Jackson Township Fire Department*

*Noblesville Fire Department*

*Riverview Hospital EMS*

*Wayne Twsp. V Fire Department*

*Westfield Fire Department*

*Requesting waiver of Data Reporting 836 IAC 1-1-5*

Mr. Mackey asked if other providers that were not reporting have been fined. The response was no.

**Mr. Mackey offered a motion to grant the waiver. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gordon. The motion passed. Dr. Olinger and Mr. Valentine abstained.**

*Metropolitan Emergency Communications Agency (MECA) on behalf of:*

*Indianapolis Fire Department*

*City of Lawrence Fire Department*

*Decatur Twsp. Fire Department*

*Franklin Twsp Fire Department*

*Indianapolis Airport Fire*

*Lawrence Twsp. Fire Department*

*Perry Twsp. Fire Department*

*Pike Twsp. Fire Department*

*Wayne Twsp. Fire Department*

*Wishard Hospital Ambulance*

*Requesting waiver of Data Reporting 836 IAC 1-1-5, and the retroactive collection of data*

**Mr. Gordon offered a motion to approve the waiver. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mackey. The motion passed.**

*Wishard Hospital Ambulance Service, 836 IAC 2-2-1, requesting authorization to allow staffing ALS ambulances with physicians in lieu of EMTs*

EMS District Manager Robin Stump presented the waiver. Ms. Stump stated that staff has concerns that there was no recourse for the commission should there be a complaint. Dr. Olinger responded that the medical licensing board would regulate the physicians should there be a complaint. Ms. Snyder asked about medical control. Dr. Olinger replied that the physicians would not be expected to follow medical control.

**Ms. Craigin offered a motion to approve the waiver. The motion was seconded by Mr. Turpen. The motion passes. Dr. Olinger abstained.**

*Grace on Wings, 836 IAC 3-2-1, requirement to be ALS, requirement to have an agreement with a supervising hospital, requirement for 135 air carrier certificate. 836 IAC 3-2-5, staffing, and 836 IAC 3-2-7, requirement for communication*

EMS District Manager Robin Stump presented the waiver.

Staff's recommendation is to approve the requests.

Hal Blank, Grace on Wings, presented two Power Point presentations explaining the scope and mission of Grace on Wings, a 501(3)(c) charity medical transport service.

**Dr. Olinger offered a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Craigin. The motion passed.**

#### EMS Personnel Waiver Requests

Mr. Pagano presented the following requests:

*Rodney Jewell, EMT-P #16172, Expired 4/1/07, requesting reinstatement of his paramedic certification and an additional year to catch up on continuing education*

Staff's recommendation is to require him to follow the current process for paramedic reinstatement by retesting the National Registry and meeting its conditions.

Mr. Pagano outlined the current process for paramedic reinstatement for the commission.

**A motion was offered and seconded to deny the waiver. The motion passed. Ms. Craigin abstained.**



*James McDermott, EMT-BA, #52876, Expired 10/1/07, requesting additional time to acquire continuing education for basic-advanced certification*

Staff's recommendation is to approve the request because additional information has been received to justify the request.

**Mr. Mackey offered a motion to approve the waiver. The motion was seconded by Mr. Turpen. The motion passed.**

Mr. Mackey discussed concerns about the issue of multiple waivers regarding expirations and reinstatements. He suggested that the staff be given more latitude when considering the waivers. Mr. Garvey stated that staff would look at the options available.

**COMMISSION CHAIRMAN'S REPORT and DIRECTION:**

Mr. Garvey reported that the procurement of triage kits is taking place. He also stated that staff was looking at the rewording of some rules. Also, the EMD Taskforce is meeting and will have a report at the next commission meeting.

**PROPOSED 2008 EMS COMMISSION MEETING DATES**

Friday, January 25, 2008

Friday, March 14, 2008

Friday May 16, 2008

Friday, July 25, 2008

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Friday, November, 14, 2007

Locations will be announced at a later date.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM.

**Approved: January 25, 2008**